

\$4.00

Illusions

A Newsletter for the TV/TS Oriented



Inside this Issue:

- Personals and Classified Ads
- Comming Events & Community Activities
- Illusion's Girl Profile
- Fashion And Makeup Advice

Volume #2 Issue #3
April / May ,1992

The Calendar

The calendar is a service of up-coming events available for our members. If you know of any events at any bars, lounges, or other organizations, just let us know so we may publish this information for others notification. If you are having a party or special event, let us know, we'll let the membership know! All Meetings start at 7:30PM unless otherwise noted.

April 8, 1992

Illusions Edmonton.

Regular Social

April 11, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Saturday Entertainment Night!!

April 25, 1992

Calgary Ball

A party not to be missed call for details!!

April 30, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Regular Social

May 14, 1992

Illusions Edmonton

Regular Social

May 9, 1992 Date changed due to long weekend

Illusions Calgary

Entertainment Night!!

May 28, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Regular Social

June 11, 1992

Illusions Edmonton

Regular Social

June 13, 1992

Party Timell

Illusions Calgary Is 2 Years Old!!!

June 25, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Regular Social

July 9, 1992

Illusions Edmonton

Bar Night!! a Night out to a safe bar!!!

Call for details

July 11, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Entertainment Night

July 30, 1992

Illusions Calgary

Regular Social

August 15, 1992

Edmontons Ball

A party not to be missed



Custom made lingerie & Street wear-
Corsets...PVC...Spandex...Leather...
Alterations - Wigs - Nails - Imported
shoes - Hosiery - Fashion
Accessories - Hip Pads - Makeovers -
Makeup Kits & Tips - Skin care
Suggestions - Friendly service To All
- Information on Cross Dressing & CD
Social clubs - Books - Magazines -
Catalogues - Custom made lingerie &
Street wear- Corsets - PVC - Spandex
- Leather - Alterations - Wigs - Nails -
Imported shoes - Hosiery - Fashion
Accessories - Hip Pads - Makeovers -
Makeup Kits & Tips - Skin care
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Street wear- Corsets - PVC - Spandex
- Leather - Alterations - Wigs - Nails -
Imported shoes - Hosiery - Fashion
Accessories - Hip Pads - Makeovers -
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Illusion Calgary for Information

Phone Number is ... (403) 236-7072

Advertising Rates

Business Cards	\$20.00
1/4 Page	\$40.00
1/2 Page	\$65.00
Full Page	\$80.00

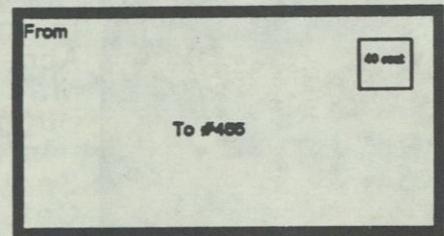
Rates are per issue which is published every two months and is copy ready. For custom ads write us for quotes.

To Answer an Ad

1) Mark on the letter that you are sending in Pencil the box number of the person that you are sending to.

2) Place a 40 cent stamp on the envelope and then place in an envelope with \$2.00 per answer and mail to

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Edmonton Alta



Fancy Pants by Vicki



The Editors Page

We are proud to say here we are again and so pleased to see that our club is almost two years old now and growing. With this and members participation our little paper is growing. We now have correspondence with several other clubs and an exchange of information and publications starting up. We are now trading information with other Canadian Clubs These Clubs Have stated that we are welcome at their events if anyone of us are travelling there.(for more information check the new classified section).

We also wish to invite all to submit articles ,photos and profiles for our magazine We can accept these as single line type written pages, IBM computer disks, or computer modem to the Edmonton phone number. For those with computers we will be setting up places to call for sending stories, for those who do not we must ask for type written articles... So get it together and send in those articles!!

Marsha

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*** NEWS***

from Empress 1 -Stephanie W.

It is hard to believe that in a few short months I will become the first past Empress of Illusions. The time has flown by so quickly, it seems like only yesterday I was presented with the position. The past year has been a very busy one for me, at times exciting and never boring. As a result of this singular and exceptional experience, I have gained a deeper insight and appreciation of what Illusions is all about, of the efforts that have been exerted to help our members achieve greater understanding and self acceptance. In the two years that Illusions has existed, we have grown from a few members to over two hundred. We must be doing something right! I wish to thank Bryan and Barbie without whom Illusions would not exist, my gracious princesses Anne and Colleen and all members of Illusions for allowing me the great pleasure of being Empress for this past year.

Love to All Stephanie W. Empress 1 of Illusions

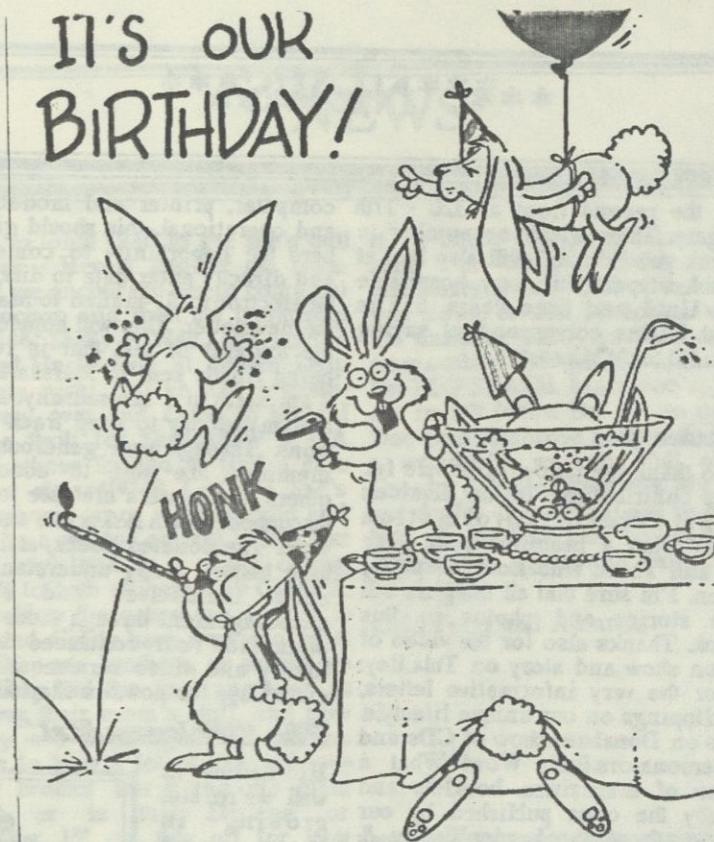
Ol Amigos!

I have some great news to share with all you ladies which I hope you find of interest. This is about an enjoyable outing Ms. Stephanie and I had the night she did the radio interview on QR77 with Barbie and Bryan. I arrived home from work about 10pm shortly before Stephanie got back from the radio station and, both of us feeling the need to unwind, we decided to head down to The Lounge At Maddison's for a nightcap. (Too bad I missed the show Stephie, but I was tuned into 660 on my car radio and only got the Flames game. Guess you had one of those blonde moments, no? Sorry for my Latin humour dear). Anyway girls, no more digression on my part. I want to tell you what a great place this is if you want to hang out in a quiet, hassle free and relaxing ambience, with a friendly staff who are more than hospitable to our sisterhood. The clientele is a good mix of straight and gay, and the atmosphere is a change of pace from Boys Town if you just want to have a nice place to talk without competing with a loud sound system. Of course being a Monday

night it was not overcrowded, so we got to chat with Glen - one of the bartenders. The other two are Gary and Susan. They are all warm and friendly people. We also had the opportunity to meet Roy Warner who is the owner of Maddison's. We told them about our social club, and they said that all our members are welcome to drop in any time. The taped music was good (done by Rona's boyfriend Peter - you probably remember them from our last Illusions get together). They played a lot of Madonna which we both appreciated. The lounge is a nice size with seating for 74 and another 100 standing. Total capacity including the restaurant which is a separate part is 264. There is a pool table and a couple of dart boards, and the bar seats about 20. Rona told us that Tuesday nights are regularly "straight" as they have a pool tournament, so you may not want to go dressed up on these occasions. There's a small menu of fast food in the lounge. You can get a soup or salad, nachoes, fish & chips, a burger or chicken wings - hot & spicy. The hours at present are Mon - Sat: 3pm to 2am. Sun: 4pm to Midnight. Rona mentioned also that they would like to organize an amateur talent night so if any of you ladies feel like hamming it up, here's another outlet for you to perform in. Maddison's Lounge is having an Easter parade which will be p-p-p-eir Grand Opening from April 17th to 20th. There will be 2 shows each night with an extra campaign show on the 17th as a prelude to the LSCCA Ball. An unexpected part of the evening was to be entertained by Riki Tempest, a male stripper who was making his premiere performance. Riki recruited various members of the female audience to apply body oil to where ever during his performance. We had moved our location from the comfortable seating area by the entrance to the bar so as to get a closer view of the show. My sister Stephanie was also invited to participate and took great pleasure in lubricating his cheeks with the lotion. Was the spanking really necessary though Stephie dear? We were having such a wonderful time that Ms. Stephanie and I stayed until closing, and St Patricks day was a few hours old by the time we got home. The Lounge At Maddison's

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IT'S OUR
BIRTHDAY!



PARTY YOUR BUNS OFF!

You are cordially invited to our second Gala Birthday Party!!

We will be having an evening of events that you'll never forget! On this night our reigning Illusions Empress and her Princesses step down as we select new royalty to step into their heels and assume their positions to honor and represent our fine social club.

The evening will include Live Music, a Talent Show, Lyp Sync, cake and presents and will conclude with the choosing of the 1992 Illusions Empress and her first and second Princess.

The evening will start with doors opening at 7:30 pm. Those competing for positions of Royalty will do a walk at 9:30 pm with Showtime at 10:00 pm. Birthday cake and gift exchange after the show and a final walk of the contestants before judging. The evening will conclude with the selection and crowning of the 1992 Empress and Princesses.

We request all participants to bring a wrapped gift (approx \$10 value) for the gift exchange.

Tickets are \$10 per person in advance (\$15 at door), available from Barbie. Please purchase your tickets early so that we can determine how many will be attending and plan appropriately.

Don't miss the Gala Event of the Year! Your participation will help make the evening a great success!

Note: Anyone wishing to enter the competition must notify Barbie no later than the May meeting. Anyone wishing to do a show but not wishing to run for a position of Royalty are welcome to do so.

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is located on the second floor at 320 - 17th Ave S.W. Calgary. Their telephone number is 244-8486. I think you "chicas" will also feel at home here and support this very hospitable establishment. Until next time dears, this is your late night Latina correspondent saying "See you at Maddison's". Ciao.

Cielo-----

Illusions Library

I would like to thank the following people for their generous contributions to the Illusions Library and Video Information Centre. Brenda: What a beautiful book (The Crossdresser and Those Who Love Them) by Marriette Allen. I'm sure that all the girls will relate to the stories and photos in this wonderful book. Thanks also for the video of the TV Fashion show and story on Tula Roy. Thank you for the very informative letters, articles and clippings on our unique lifestyle. Also the video on Donahues show of CDs and Female Impersonators. Earl: Wow! What a great selection of magazines, booklets and such. Especially the ones published by our sisters from south of the border. Wendy & Karen: Thanks, dears, for your contribution of an extra VCR. Now all the girls who have tapes relating to Illusions can come by and make copies for all to enjoy. Karen, thanks honey, also for editing some existing tapes. Your help is greatly appreciated. Fred: Fantastic! Your contribution of over 50 glossy magazines will no doubt give the girls hours of enjoyment. It is people like you who are making our dream come true. Khonda: I'm sure that all the photo copying of articles, newspaper clippings and humorous cartoons you did for us will keep the girls very entertained. Thanks also, dear, for the photo albums and binders. To our mystery girl: Your generous donation of a colour TV and VCR has just overwhelmed us all at the club. Through your kindness, your sisters are now able to relax and enjoy our ever growing selection of tapes. From all the girls... thank you, dear! Scarlet: Thanks for the tape of the Donahue show on the TV wedding, the Tula interview and the show of the TV hookers. Marsha: A big thank you for the loan of

computer, printer and modem. Once set up and operational, this should give many members the opportunity to come into the shop and directly enter data to disk which can then be electronically mailed to Marsha to enter in the newsletter. This will hopefully cut down on the amount of text that is re-copied before being finally sent to Marsha. To all members: I am sorry if I missed anyone. Barbie, Bree and myself try to keep track of all contributions. Through your generous donations are members are able to educate themselves, others. Our sisters are able to make contacts throughout North America, and even the world wide. The donated books, articles and stories have helped many understand a little more about themselves and I'm sure give encouragement through those rocky times we often face. Your continued donations to our library and video services are greatly appreciated. Bye for now. Ms. Stephanie D.

The "Welcome Mat"

Hi Ladies - well we're still growing in leaps and bounds, so here's some gossip on the new gals! #140 Alice - On her 1st visit, Alice enjoyed a makeover and was so thrilled to finally have a place to connect with. She's still a bit shy but I'm sure we'll see lots of her in the months to come. #141 Michelle - An out of townie from interior BC, she would love to hear from others, especially if you have great makeup and dressing tips! #142 Bev another out of townie. This is her 1st step out of the closet, so we encourage her to come down from northern Alberta and see us. #143 Arden - And other half Judy. Great to have both gals at their 1st meeting last month. Thanks also for the generous magazines you contributed! Our home is yours! #144 Rachelle - In her words, "she's been out of



NEWS

the closet WAY to long! Glad to see she's out! Bravo! #145 Lory - Here's another gal from mid Alberta and we encourage her to come out of her private cocoon and trust the friendship & home here. #146 Shelly - Well, she landed quite by surprise! Uncle Don at Lovers Leap told us one party night that he had a customer... Anne went over and Lassoed her in! Great fun and a thrill for Shelly!! #147 J - A professional gal whose thrilled to find a safe outlet... welcome aboard! #148 Leslie - She's been gender dysphoric since a young child and has been living as a gal for several years. Her very supportive boyfriend is a really caring person. Welcome to both of them. #149 Cindy & #150 Melanie - Now these two are a must to meet! Melanie and Cindy have a unique twist to their story. They are brothers, or should we say "sisters"!! They had fun in many ways as kids, fighting over their mom's stuff, and now years later, they are back again as sisters, needing friends to have a lot of fun with! >> Hi, this is my brother Daryl and my other brother Daryl... or is that Darlene or Cindy... Anyways, I'll cut this off for now and, as always, I'm thrilled to meet new gals so don't be shy... introduce yourself to others, we all have lots to share and care about. Lots of Love.

-Barbie

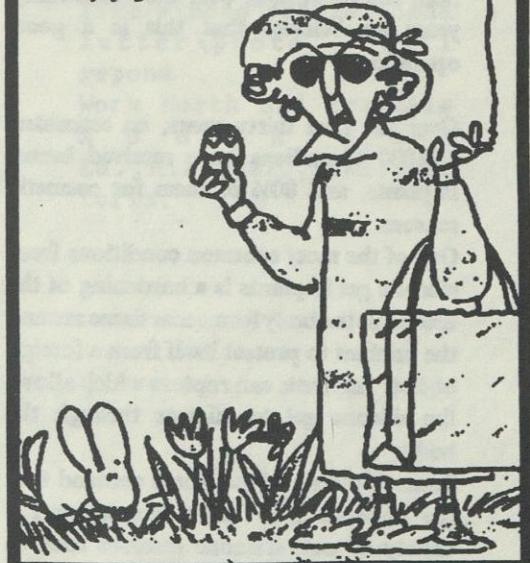
THE DRAGLINE

Like Hi! The Von Bovine's here. Just thought we'd dish some dirt. Seems like THE TROOPS (Illusions) have found themselves a new watering hole. Maddison's on 17th Ave. My My! What ever will become of Boys Town. And Oooo, can Ms. Stephanie and mamma Trash ever tie one on. Seems the scoop this time is Apocalypse Now in our ever loving sister (ar ar ar) city Edmonton. To top of the night Ms. Amanda tied on a couple and got thrown out of the old Citadel. Edmonton has a new crew Barbwire & Curtis. Congrats & to the wuzzies Ashley & Keith we hope you had a wonderful year, way to go girls. Now, down to poop, poop, poop. We seem to have some wonderful entertainers amongst our own Illusionettes. Now if we could just get Barbie, to dance for us the place would be hoppin'. Well, again, fabulous party at our own Illusions and

if we could just get momma Trash up for 10 min I'm sure I could really get some dirt! Nasty, Nasty Dish. Come on Vogue your way down to 318. Madonna was spectacular, the dancers were excellent and Tiffany was immaculate. But girl, do them there roots. Well the BIG SLASH. Maddison's, the troops were out in full force. But not to get tasteless, Ms. Dee Dee Ambrose and Momma Trash hosted a wonderful weekend full of babes. Mona Groana & Sister Precious. My, my, my, such a wonderful ensemble. Love ya. And if this don't beat all, the LSCCA Ball is coming up at the Highlander again and careful girls, we'll be watching!

Caio, Terri and Amanda

Happy Easter!!



Beauty And The Breast

As seen in the news, a debate is raging among recipients, doctors, and government regulators over the safety of silicone implants. Dozens of American and Canadian women are suing Michigan-based DOW CORNING CORP., a leading manufacturer of silicone gel implants, on the grounds that they suffered health problems and personal injury due to these devices. In early January, the Canadian and American Governments imposed temporary, voluntary moratoriums on the use of silicone implants, and both will decide by the end of April whether to lift the ban or make it permanent.

Most plastic surgeons are continuing to defend the benefits of implants. The vice-president of the Canadian Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery, and a Toronto-based surgeon, claims to have done more than 500 operations over the past twenty years and believes that this is a good operation.

Over the past thirty years, an estimated 150,000 Canadians have received breast implants, and 80% of them for cosmetic reasons.

One of the most common conditions from silicone gel implants is a hardening of the breasts as the body forms scar tissue around the implant to protect itself from a foreign object. Implants can rupture which allows the silicone gel to migrate through the body.

Some doctors and recipients contend that the implants may cause cancers and a variety of auto-immune diseases such as

Rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma — a tightening & hardening of the skin — and lupus erythematosus, which leads to rashes and chronic pain in the joints.

Despite the controversy, many are still determined to have breast implants, and there are doctors willing to accommodate them.

One doctor named Elizabeth Hall-Findley of Banff, Alberta isn't concerned with cancer and auto-immune reactions. Silicone is an inert substance that doesn't react with human tissue. She also noted that it is a component of numerous other medical devices, such as pacemakers, that can be placed permanently in a patient's body. So if silicone were so bad, there would be an epidemic of auto-immune disease in response.

An implant operation costs from \$3000 to \$5000 and when performed for cosmetic reasons, is not covered by provincial health-care plans.

The surgery is a fairly simple procedure, patients are usually given a sedative to help them relax before receiving a general anaesthetic. The operation takes about two hours, and most patients

are sent home several hours after the surgery is finished. Incisions for inserting the implants can be made in the crease beneath the breast, in the area of the nipple, or under the armpit. Ninety percent of patients can be accommodated with the desired size. The other ten percentage are patients who's skin is abnormally tight, which prevents the patient from achieving

her preferred breast size through an implant.

Societies figures show only one percent of silicone gel implants rupture. And less than ten percent of implant patients experience hardening of the breasts. A 1991 survey of 592 women -- who lived with implants for an average of eight (8) years — 93% were satisfied customers.

The long-term success of the implant procedure depends on careful screening of potential patients. To ensure that each patient is both emotionally and psychologically stable.

In order to resolve the controversy over the safety of breast implants, the federal health department has appointed a four member independent advisory committee. The committee is faced with a complex and thankless job. Many Canadians who have had implants are now plagued by doubts. But for those who still want the operation, the moratorium on the use of silicone-gel devices has created anger and exasperation. When good looks and good health are not necessarily synonymous, it may take more than a federal committee to calm the raging medical maelstrom over beauty and the breast.

- Summarized from forum
(medical updates)

D'Arcy Jenish with Theresa Fitzgerald (Montreal)

James Deacon (Toronto)
and John Howe (Calgary)

Late Addition!!

#245 Rena Photo
Tall, shy, brunette, novice
T.S. Late bloomer,
40, matured hippie,
submissive, discreet, lone
some. Conservative
dresser, pursuing best
possible passability.
Into enfemme weekend
adventures. A yen to
explore total female
experience. Enjoy
music, cooking, outdoorsy
stuff, oil painting, shopping, live
concerts, theatre, and
friendly gentlemen.
Seeking genuine
friendship and advise of
like minded people. Send
letter\photo, will
respond

Work North and travails
south to
Ed., R.D., Cal., Banf., Victoria.

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Judge who dressed in drag gets discharge

The Canadian Press

St. John's, Nfld.

A Federal Court judge dressed in women's underwear while wandering around drunk in a hotel hallway last year was given an absolute discharge Tuesday.

Leonard Martin, 60, resigned immediately after he was charged last May 9 with committing indecent act in a public place.

A tall, thin mustachioed man, Martin was staying at the St. John's Holiday Inn while hearing cases when he was spotted wearing a black bra, panties and nylons, court was told.

Some teenage girls who were members of a visiting volleyball team from Saskatchewan reported seeing him leaning against a wall while on their way to a soft-drink machine.

His lawyer, David Orsborn, changed Martin's plea to guilty and told the court the former judge has been diagnosed with chronic alcohol dependence.

This area has been left intentionally blank due to privacy considerations.

NEWS

Apocalypse!!!

A night of leather and lashes

On Feb 29 there was a party in Edmonton for the M.F. Ms. Gay pageant. The night was great there was several members from Calgary up for the show and a great time was had by all. I had the pleasure of being the person who was in charge of the show and all the stage arrangements..I had a great time doing all these arrangements but come showtime I was a wreck. I myself did not get to see to much of the show but from Edmonton and Calgary members comments all had a good time.. Myself (Marsha), Krystal, and Colleen did an entrance for the clubs with a very good reception by all others there..The next big party is the Court Ball in Calgary in April. If you are wishing to go call me or Barbie for details..

Marsha

Dining out in Edmonton.

Well with the changing of owners at Cafe' Ivanna and their attitude to alternate lifestyles we have lost our only restaurant we had here in town..Well there is a new choice but dining out is only available Sundays. At Boots and Saddle at 10242-108 St a bar in town here they have sunday dinners for \$5.00 as you get a home cooked meal.. the menu changes each week and you have to call to find out what's being served that night..The management is very courteous towards us. I myself have been doing dinner there for a couple of months now and have had no problems at all. Dinner is served from 6pm to 9 pm and the bar is open from 6pm to 12am.. PS> If you want company call me more than likely I am going down for dinner so come and join me!!

Marsha

ILLUSIONS REGISTRY

#40 Jenny PHOTO Slightly Dominant BI TV. Looking for afternoon adventures with slim TV interested in sexy dressing- nylons, heels, corsets, latex and leather..

#41 Ursula PHOTO Attractive TV 34 years 5'11" 165 lbs into the total feminine experience of dressing fully in beautiful, sexy clothes including lingerie and high heels. Enjoys shopping photo sessions XXX movies correspondence. Would love to hear from TV/TS & females.

#42 John

#43 Ian

#44 Bob

#45 J.F.

#46 Angela

#47 Cynthia

#48 Karen

#50 Dawn

#51 Bran

#52 Barry S/W/M 35 yrs. 5'9" 160lbs. Would like to correspond possibly establish relationship with other TV's. Exchange photo's or VIDEOS. Also require tips on dressing, etc. Write soon!!!!

#53 Carrie

#54 Stephanie

#55 Randie PHOTO Bi W/M slim attractive N/S interested in TV lifestyle for fun & sex. Would like to hear from similar attractive TV's, males & females for correspondence and

possible sexy get-togethers. Age not important but slim attractiveness is. Have lots of revealing lingerie photos, faster response to revealing photo w/letter.

#056 Jerry

#057 Jolene

#058 Sherry

#059 Inga

#060 Donna

#061 Debbie

#062 Monica

#063 Bob

#064 Kyla

#065 Brandy

#066 Mona

#067 Dee

#068 Monty

#069 Marcia PHOTO Marcia is a pre-op TS who resides in Saskatoon. She would like to correspond with and eventually meet gentlemen of all backgrounds. She is a reasonably intelligent person who is versed in many topics. She also has a wry and dry sense of humour once you get to know her. She does not smoke or drink but does not mind it in moderation with others. If you're SERIOUS about having a friend in the "Bridge City" then why not write a NICE letter of introduction soon and go from there. A photo would be appreciated.

#070 Denise 35 yr old TV interested in stores correspondence and photo exchange. Love heels,

hose & all types of lingerie and cross-dressing. Slim, clean & very discreet, expect the same.

#071 Karen PHOTO Out going sincere TV Enjoys photo sessions, shopping, most types of music & especially enjoys portraying the feminine side of my personality dressed in full feminine attire. Fully shaven, clean and discreet. Would love to hear from other TVs & TS & Females. Include photo and phone # for prompt reply.

#072 Dianna PHOTO Bi TV married, HI! I would like to meet TV's, TS's and ladies who appreciate the art of dressing. I am 5'6", 135 lbs. correspondence and private gettogethers are great. I enjoy being treated as a lady. I live in the mid Sask. area and can travel. Call me. Let's be friends.

#073 Wendy Outgoing, fun 35 year old TV. Tall slim and passable. Enjoy expressing my female side. Into passing in public with other TV ,TS , Females and supporters. I'm looking for honest and sincere friends to share my feminine experience with. Totally clean shaven.

#074 Kelly

ILLUSIONS REGISTRY

#075 Ann

#076 George

#077 Jessica

#078 Kathy

#079 Tracey New novice to being female. I enjoy dressing in sexy lingerie and dresses. Would like to meet TV/TS's for maybe a pajama/slumber party but I cannot hold it at my residence.

#080 Jessica

#081 Karen PHOTO

#082 Michael

#083 Randy

#084 Leslie I enjoy meeting other ladies and fashion interests me

#085 Gina

#086 Lily

#087 Regina

#088 Randy

#089 Monique

#090 Ed

#091 Ted

#092 Joyce

#093 Roxanne

#094 Bruce

#095 Linda

#096 Jo Anne

#097 Morna

#098 Brad

#099 Ralph

#100 Jacqueline

#101 Sandy

#102 Diana

#103 Carol

#104 Liz

#105 Gloria

#106 Bobbie

#107 Shotzzi

#108 Bobbie

#109 Brooke

and corresponding with other TV/TS's and Ladies. Tall slim and very discreet.

#110 Stacey

#111 Gabriella Married TV, 49 6' ,185lbs. Into leather, PVC. Garter belts, stockings, thigh-high boots,mini skirts. I love erotic outfits. Would like to write/meet, exchange photos, videos, experiences with like minded TV's/TS's. Explore fantasies, serious and discreet. resides in Northwest BC travel often to BC & Alta.. Photo Video please. All answered immediately.. Please write!!

#112 Cynthia

#113 Vicki

#114 Kim

#115 Jennifer

#116

#117 Mary

#118 Hedley

#119 Darlene & Louise

#120 Micki Jo 48 Year old heterosexual TV, enjoys heels, hose, lingerie, leather, lace, and all aspects of the femme experience. Novice to being totally female. Would like to correspond and possibly meet like minded TV/TS or Females for friendship.

#121 Scarlet'O Faze

#122 Maria

#123 Rhonda

#124 Brenda

#125 Bobbie From Washington D.C.

ILLUSIONS REGISTRY

#216 Mila
 #218 Gwen PHOTO
 Bi TV, A little naughty but love to be taken control of. Would love to correspond with others in the same fetish and possibly exchange pictures, also would like to exchange videos. Love bondage and other related passions.
 #219 Candice PHOTO
 Long legged blonde TS. Very outgoing! Would love to meet other TS, TV for friendship or get-togethers. All you cute guys out there who have a sweettooth... there's a tasty piece of candy her waiting to be nibbled on! See ya soon.
 #220 Michel
 #221 Kin & Lin PHOTO
 I would like to meet other bi TV's I am 55 years young and married. My wife approves and might participate in fun and games. depending on new friends, Character and appearance as female. We drink, smoke and are easily going with respectful friends. Age is no problem or colour. We are completely shaven. Join us for fun and games(Clean shaven and female attire a must) Write us with a picture of yourself. Long term friendship offered in exchange for respect friends and dissection.:P.S. slim preferred but not a must.

#222 Dari
 Attractive TS from the west coast would like to meet and make friends within Edmonton and Calgary. I am musically inclined and interested in meeting others.
 #223 Stella
 Female who wishes to do sewing for TV's and TS's. Write for information
 #224 Rose Ann
 Married TV would like to meet dominant strict disciplinarian female who needs their housework done, etc. No cooking... by HIRE ONLY! Edmonton area mainly. Also available for shopping chores and auto repair, maid duties and parties. Driving lessons, auto, shopping and some maintenance work and janitor work, etc.
 #225 Kelly
 #226 Kevin
 #227 Elmer
 #228 Matt
 #229 Staci
 Submissive bi-TV, 31, would like to meet singles, couples for good times. Interested also in meeting other TV/TS's. Love anything and everything. Feminine & passable. Into just about anything. Travels to Edmonton/Calgary on a fairly regular basis, Grande Prairie, High Level areas occasionally. Based in

Red Deer, Alberta.
 #230 Francis
 Married BI TV Late 30's. Would like to meet any like minded sister in Edmonton or Calgary. Travel to Calgary often. Looking for friendship and someone to share my intimate fantasises with. Photo and phone appreciated.
 #231 Erica Darling
 #232 Cathy
 TV 34 years old 6'1" 185 lbs I'm still very shy novice but would like to correspond and perhaps meet people. I live in northern Alberta, but occasionally travel to Edmonton
 #233 Johanne
 #234 Blinda Photo
 31 year old Hetro TV living in Ottawa My Tastes do lean towards the exodic: satin, lace, corsets, Maid outfits and sleazy cocktail dresses. I am all so working on getting a more casual wardrobe. Honest!! Very much enjoy going out to restaurants, Clubs and dancing. Have a special interest in bondage and non sexual B&D role playing. Can be sub or Dom. Can entertain and travel to Montreal frequently. anyways if any of you western Gals are travelling this way feel free to drop me a line. I may be kinky, But all in all I'm pretty harmless.
 #235 Derick

ILLUSIONS REGISTRY

#236 Chantelle
 #237 Mary Rose Starre
 Personable Bi TV 38 Living in the Red Deer area. Into outdoor activities and weight training. I like music and live theatre as well I'm interested in meeting other TV/TS's people for niece times
 #238 Chantelle
 #239 Barbra
 #240 Geri
 #241 Ken
 #242 Pauline
 #243 Ken
 #244 Vicki
 Tall slender (6'0"-160 Lbs) married TV. Been dressing since 1975 an interested in meeting experienced T.V. Willing to participate as Vicki or as a male date. Interested in all types of relationships both long and causal. Very versatile- Bi sexual-unshockable...BUT no DRUGS!! Also open to select men up to 50 yrs.
 #245 Christie
 #246 Dee Dee I.
 #247 Randi
 #248 Yvette
 #249 Marissa Lynn M.
 #1000 Dee Photo
 Formerly of B.C. now residing in Edmonton.
 #1001 Chantel ED
 Attractive 27 year old TS blonde amazon. 38-27-38 seeking generous gentlemen for fun times!
 #1004 Sissy Bobbie ED Photo
 36 year old TV 5'6"
 120 lbs This sissy submissive novice wishes to receive training in all aspects of feminization and submissiveness from TV, TS, Females or couples. Descriptive letter and photo receives mine.
 #1005 Mistress Black ED 6'4"- Goddess in black leather, 30 yr young, TV. Looking for the right subject to serve my whims Enjoys Bondage and Discipline Consideration given to sincere honest responses. Your picture gets fast response. So tell me your fantasies and we'll see what happens....
 #1006 Joy
 Hi my name is Joy and I am TV looking for a man to control and use me. I am into not good but Great Times!! Detailed letter of what you want and what I'll get, with a photo. And I'll send you an answer Love Joy..
 #1007 Donna I Wanna
 28 year old BI TV who is looking for that right person for a long lasting relationship. I am into just about anything. I just can't get enough of rubber outfits and their sensation. If you are serious send me your true dreams and I'll tell you mine.
 #1008 Charlene Calgary
 31 yr old woman with two children who loves the dark side of life. I love the TV and their lifestyles. I love being gentle or butch depending on my mood, I love the feeling of stockings against my legs specially when I not the one wearing them. Write me and if your letter intrigues me I'll write you back..
 #1009 Jackie
 5'6" tall 36b-20-34 TV. I have been a TV all my life and want to explore my better half to be a female in all ways!! and I do mean all ways .Write me ! I can travel for the right person.
 #1010
 Male 38 , seeks special lady who likes to give and receive G.S. also mild B&D, S&M.. TV's & TS's responses welcome.. Only detailed letters with phone numbers answered.
 #1011 DeAnne
 38 yr old married Bi curious TV (Closeted)
 Would like to correspond and or meet other TV's or understanding female for friendship or?? Lingerie lover. NOT into B&D or Men. TV's & Ladies only. Discretion expected and ensured. Will answer all. Penpals welcome....

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DEFINITIONS OF TERMS COMMONLY USED in the TRANSVESTITE/TRANSSEXUAL COMMUNITY

Compiled by Merissa Sherrill Lynn
for the International Foundation for Gender Education's
Educational Resources Committee

I INTRODUCTION

The desire to emulate the opposite sex has been a fundamental part of the human character since the earliest times. The transvestite (TV) and transsexual (TS) phenomena have manifested themselves in a near infinite variety of ways from the Fafafini of Micronesia, to the Berdache of Native America, to the professional entertainer, to the contemporary recreational cross-dresser. In some way or another, the transvestite/transsexual phenomena affect everyone.

The purpose of this directory is to help you better understand the more common terms used in the TV/TS Community, and in the process help you gain a better understanding of the TV/TS phenomena.

Please understand, this is not a directory of universally accepted definitions for terms. Even if such a directory were possible, which it isn't, we would still have years of input and evaluation and re-evaluation and compromise before we can produce such a directory. Instead, treat this directory as 'food for thought', a tool to help you understand how the terms are most common.

ly used, how they interface, and to develop your own 'meaning' for them.

I have divided the terms into two categories, 'Influential Terms' and 'Primary Terms'. The primary terms are the traditional ones ('transvestite', 'transsexual', etc.). The influential terms are terms that are commonly used in the TV/TS Community, and affect our understanding of the primary terms.

Terms mean different things to different people. Since I cannot give you solid authoritative definitions, I'll try to give you flexible subjective definitions (personal opinions). This is to help you understand what you mean when you use a term and to be able to communicate that meaning to others. It is also to help you understand others when they use a term. In short, this directory is more about communications than definitions.

I hope you find it useful.

- Merissa Sherrill Lynn

II INFLUENTIAL TERMS

TERM / CATEGORY:

Even though 'term' and 'category' mean virtually the same thing, I am making a distinction because 'term' implies an idea or an expression, and tends to be more flexible, while 'category' implies a classification, and tends to be less flexible, and a little more dangerous to the person being categorized. People within the TV/TS Community are vulnerable to being categorized. Terms are used to describe phenomena, and categories are used to pigeonhole them.

BIOLOGY / PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY / LANGUAGE:

When it comes to understanding the nature of the transvestite-transsexual phenomena, not knowing what terms and categories belong to which science creates problems.

Biology is a life science. 'Sex', 'male', 'female', and 'man' or 'woman' as an adult male or female are biological terms. 'Gender', 'masculine', 'feminine', and

'man' or 'woman' as modes of being are not biological terms.

Psychology is a science of the mind. What do we think and feel? Why do we act the way that we do? How do we perceive ourselves as human beings? How do we deal with unwanted feelings such as guilt, lack of self-respect, anger, etc.? Most of the categories (especially those ending with -ism) used in the TV/TS Community were coined by psychologists.

Sociology is the science of human beings living together. How do we want to be perceived in public? How do we want to be treated? How do we treat others? What are our responsibilities to our community, and what are our community's responsibilities to us? How do we act in public?

Language is a collection of concepts, value judgments, and labels created out of the imagination of man to describe his environment and to communicate. It is very important to understand the difference between words as labels describing qualities of Nature, and words as concepts and value judgments created out of the imagination of man. 'Female' is a label describing a biological fact, while 'feminine' is a value assigned to a quality such as 'gentle' or 'pink'.

To put it in terms relevant to this directory, Biology is concerned with our biological make-up, what our body is, and how it works. It is concerned with physical fact. Psychology and sociology are more concerned with what we think, what we say, how we feel, how we act, how we dress, how we inter-act with others, and why. They are not concerned with physical fact. Language is concerned with the meaning of words, which as I've already stated, is vulnerable to subjective interpretation. Some words just identify physical facts, some are value judgments, and some are concepts. It is important to know which is which.

Biological fact is natural fact, and no amount of chemicals or cosmetic surgery is going to change that fact. As far as biology is concerned, a human being is little more than a biological specimen, and not a "person". Virtually everything that makes a human being a "person" is based in psychology and sociology. Psychology and sociology are artificial sciences, influenced perhaps, but not based on biological fact. They are actually more influenced by philosophy and language than by biology. 'Language' is an artificial creation, a collection of words created by the imagination of man to describe his environment and to communicate. 'Language' is not a natural fact. Morality and ethics are artificial creations, not natural facts. Thinking is artificial, acting is artificial, being a person is artificial.

In short, biological fact is real, but when it comes to people being people, not very relevant. Psychology

and sociology are artificial, but when it comes to people being people, completely relevant.

HELPING PROFESSIONAL / ALLIED PROFESSIONAL / CARETAKER:

The most common use of the term 'helping professional' is to describe members of the mental therapy profession (psychiatrists, psychologists, psychoanalysts, psychopathologists, sexologists, etc.). Many expand that definition to include social workers, counselors, educators, and members of the medical professions. However, when all these professions are lumped together, it is now popular to refer to them as 'allied professionals', or 'caretakers'. Allied professionals are professional people who have members of the TV/TS Community or their 'significant others' as clients.

Many people expand the definition of 'allied professional' even further to include members of the support services (image and fashion consultants, cosmetologists, beauticians, hair stylists, electrologists, sexual surrogates a/k/a the world's oldest profession, etc.).

SEX / GENDER:

One of the greatest difficulties people have is not being able to separate 'sex' from 'gender'.

'Sex' is a biological term dividing a species into either male or female, usually based on sex chromosomes (XX = female, XY = male). 'Sexual gratification' is also a biological term. Sex is sex... a biological fact, or a physical act. 'Sex' says nothing about an individual other than describing that person's chromosomes and biological function (gestation, lactation, menstruation, impregnation, XX vs XY, etc). 'Sexual gratification' says nothing about how one achieves sexual gratification (an achievement limited only by one's imagination).

'Gender' is much more complicated. Originally 'gender' was a grammar tool, a classification by which to give the proper inflection to words (e.g. 'masculine', 'feminine', 'neuter'). 'Gender' has now taken on a much broader meaning. It has been taken out of the grammar context, and applied to life itself. Now 'gender' is to 'masculine' and 'feminine' what 'sex' is to 'male' and 'female'. What I mean by that is 'gender' is not a biological fact. Rather, it is a label, or a value, of more use to psychologists and sociologists (unless you happen to be a biologist such as Dr. John Money, who still considers gender to be inseparable from sex).

Ultimately, what it comes down to is which use of the term is most useful for the user - to use 'gender' as a biological term, or use it as a psychological/sociological term. For most people it is more practical to use it as a psychological and sociological term.

SEXUAL FUNCTION / GENDER ROLE:

Again, 'sex' is a biological fact and 'gender' is a value judgment with no inherent reality. 'Sexual function' is all those biological things that go along with being male or female (menstruation, gestation, lactation, reproduction, etc.). However, a 'role' is, as the dictionary puts it, the character an actor plays in a performance. In life you are the actor, and the character you play in society is your 'role'. That 'character' you play may be, and frequently is, severely limiting, or fundamentally incompatible with your identity as a person. If so, we have a problem, but it is a gender problem, not a sex problem.

Sexual function is all those biological things that go along with being male or female, and is never a 'role'. On the other hand, gender role is a mode of being, a way to be, how we express ourselves as people, how we act, how we dress, how we feel, how we think, etc. Unfortunately, we tend to assign gender roles according to sex (who gets the blue blanket, who gets the pink, act like a man, look like a woman, etc.), and we all know that those assigned roles are not necessarily compatible with our preferred roles.

SEXUAL IDENTITY / GENDER IDENTITY / GENDER EXPRESSION:

Sexual identity is whether or not a person perceives him/herself to be male or female. The problem arises when a male perceives himself to be female, and vice versa. Can one change his or her sex? No! The best that can be hoped for is through chemical therapy (hormones, etc.) and surgery the individual can function as the opposite sex. For legal and practical purposes, that's good enough. (see 'sexual dysphoria')

Gender identity is whether or not a person perceives him/herself to be a man or woman. (That's different than being male or female.) The problem arises when a male perceives himself to be a woman, and vice versa. Notice I said man or woman, and not male or female. The difference is important. Male and female are biological terms, while man and woman as they are used here are modes of being, ways to be, which are based on psychology and sociology rather than biology. (see 'gender dysphoria')

Sexual identity is a 'transsexual' issue and may involve sexual re-assignment surgery, but may not involve cross-dressing. Gender identity is a 'transgender' issue and does not involve surgery, but almost always involves cross-dressing.

Gender expression is the term nearest and dearest to the hearts of most cross-dressers. In the TV/TS Community gender expression means males expressing their femininity and females expressing their masculinity using cross-dressing as a tool.

GENDER EUPHORIA/DYSPHORIA / SEXUAL EUPHORIA/DYSPHORIA:

Each year these fancy terms seem to grow in popularity. (They're not that popular with me, however. I don't believe in using 'illumination' when 'light' will do.) Granted, 'dysphoria' is more impressive than the word 'unhappy' or 'uncomfortable', but they basically mean the same thing. (Euphoria means 'happy', or sense of well being.)

Gender dysphoria/euphoria = Unhappy/happy with one's socially and culturally assigned gender role.

Sexual dysphoria/euphoria = Unhappy/happy with one's biological make-up, or sex.

An understanding of these terms are especially important when it comes to deciding whether or not someone is a proper candidate for sexual reassignment (some people prefer 'corrective' surgery). Being unhappy with one's gender role is one thing. Being unhappy with one's sex is something completely different, and usually decides a person's identity, whether or not a person is just going to be a recreational cross-dresser, live as a transgenderist, or change sex.

MALE / FEMALE:

'Male' and 'female' are biological terms, identified by various biological criteria such as sexual function, XX or XY chromosomes, etc. (See 'Sex')

Notice I said 'male' and 'female' are defined by biological criteria, and not by any psychological or sociological criteria. Any discussion on how a male or a female is supposed to feel, or act, or dress, is simply inappropriate. (Chromosomes don't feel, act, or dress.)

MASCULINE / FEMININE:

'Masculine' and 'feminine' are gender terms. In Nature there is no such thing as masculinity and femininity. 'Masculinity' and 'femininity' are value judgments, words used to identify and qualify qualities of Nature. In other words, what is masculine or feminine is strictly a matter of prevailing opinion, subject to change, and not a matter of biological fact.

Those qualities of Nature that we label masculine or feminine are inherent in all things, including both males and females. The tragedy is that many people cannot accept that it is natural for males to have feminine qualities, and females to have masculine qualities. It would be very unnatural if males or females didn't have these qualities, or worse, denied it.

MAN / WOMAN:

'Man' and 'woman' are defined both in biological and psycho-sociological terms.

The biological definitions are simple: 'Man' = adult male, and 'woman' = adult female. The biological definitions of 'man' or 'woman' are sexual definitions. As I mentioned earlier, these definitions may be perfectly correct, but not very relevant. They say nothing about a person's identity, how he/she feels, or his/her lifestyle.

Psycho/sociological definitions for 'man' and 'woman' are not so simple. These definitions determine a person's identity - whether or not they perceive themselves to be a man or a woman. They also define the criterion for what constitutes a man or a woman, the dress code, the gender role, the code of conduct, what a man or woman is supposed to think, and how they are supposed to feel. The problem is, nobody can agree on the definitions. 'Society' says one thing, yet each individual says something else. Every place that a person would look to find a role model say something different - the movies, the family, religion, the community, the media, teen idols, etc.

In short, if a person is looking for an acceptable psycho/sociological definition of what a 'man' or 'woman' is, the answer is frighteningly simple - there isn't any.

Sexual definitions of what constitute a 'man' or a 'woman' are irrelevant. The only relevant definitions for 'man' and 'woman' are psycho/sociological - yet there aren't any, none that are generally accepted any way. The answer to this dilemma is, it is the responsibility of each individual to decide for themselves what constitutes a 'man' or a 'woman'.

Whether or not a person considers him or herself to be a 'man' or a 'woman' is a matter of personal identity, a matter of personal gender (not sexual) identity. The only valid judge as to whether or not an individual considers him or herself to be a 'man' or a 'woman' is that individual, and the only relevant basis upon which to make that judgment is gender, and not sex.

SEXUAL PREFERENCE:

Perhaps the most frequent mistake people make concerning the TV/TS phenomena is to assume the crossdresser or transsexually inclined person is homosexual. Not so!

"Homosexual", like "heterosexual", are sexual terms, used to describe sexual orientation, activity, or lifestyle. If we must talk in sexual terms, for male crossdressers the turn-on is femininity, not masculinity, and the only male they are trying to attract is

themselves. In point of fact the percentage of homosexuality among people who crossdress is less than it is in the population in general.

In other words, using clothing as a tool to trigger a sexual response has virtually nothing to do with whether or not a person is sexually attracted to persons of the same or the opposite sex. They are fundamentally different issues.

Nough said!

TURN-ON:

A turn-on is anything that excites, or creates a state of euphoria, or ecstasy. Most people associate 'turn-on' with sex, but it can also be sensual or emotional. We all know that for most people crossdressing is a turn-on. What many people fail to acknowledge is that cross-dressing is not necessarily a 'sexual' turn-on.

FETISHISM:

Basically speaking, a fetish is an object or part of the body that, although not sexual itself, elicits an erotic response. Fetishism is the condition in which erotic feelings are excited by a non-sexual object. The crossdressing world has a plethora of fetish items, and plenty of fetishists to enjoy them. (E.g., lingerie, high-heeled shoes, corsets, maids outfits, virtually anything and everything.)

Most people who cross-dress started because it was a sexual turn-on. (Most people also deny it.) The largest group of people within the TV/TS Community are fetishists. It has been implied by some that the mainstream crossdresser is non-sexual. That's not true. The mainstream crossdresser is sexual.

However, there is a footnote: The mainstream crossdresser who has stepped out of the closet into the light of day, who has built a cadre of friends, or become actively involved in organizational or community work, is usually motivated by rewards that go far beyond sex. Generally speaking, the active members of the TV/TS Community have moved on to non-erotic sensual rewards (such as plain old happiness), or to emotional rewards (peace of mind, friendships, etc.), or even spiritual rewards (a sense of spiritual harmony, etc.)

Still, down there at the bottom of the pyramid where the vast majority dwells, the dominant resident remains the fetishistic crossdresser.

SIGNIFICANT OTHER (SO):

'Significant other', or 'SO', is a term growing in popularity. It identifies a person who is not a member

of the TV/TS Community, but is directly affected by one who is (e.g., a wife, fiancee, or close friend).

PASSING / BEING READ:

'Passing' means being accepted by strangers as a member of the opposite sex.

'Being read' means not being accepted by strangers as a member of the opposite sex.

NORMAL / DEVIANT:

'Normal' (norm) is a statistical term meaning 'average', and no moral judgement is implied. It is also a generally accepted standard or model. Cross-dressing is considered abnormal because it does not conform to that standard, but, that standard is constantly changing. Who knows, maybe someday cross-dressing will be considered 'normal'. The problem arises when people use "normal", which is a statistical average, as a value judgement.

'Deviant' is a statistical deviation from the norm. Again, no moral judgment is implied. Cross-dressing is deviant behavior because it deviates from the norm.

"When people accuse me of not being normal, I reply that I am statistically unusual, as were all great people in history, including Jesus Christ." — Virginia Prince

PERSONA / ANIMA / ANIMUS:

In Jungian psychology, the theory is that the human psyche contains both masculine and feminine characteristics, and that the primordial drive of the psyche is towards wholeness. However, through the socialization process (role models, education, etc.) a person develops an identification with their sex, and

represents those elements of the psyche which manifests the opposite sex. That identification with one's sex is called the "persona".

'Anima' is the suppressed or submerged feminine aspect of a man.

'Animus' is the suppressed or submerged masculine aspect of a woman.

I mention this because of the idea that all human beings, both male and female have inherent masculine and feminine qualities, and that the natural tendency is towards wholeness. It is an idea that has been with us at least since the Vedas of ancient India, which were written over 5,000 years ago, and is a fundamental element of Eastern philosophy (Yin and Yang). It is not gaining popularity with Western philosophers and psychologists. Also, the idea that human beings have a natural tendency towards wholeness is very relevant to gender expression, for a male or female to express one's femininity or masculinity through cross-dressing. You will be hearing a lot more of 'persona', 'anima', and 'animus'.

SHADOW / PROJECTION:

You will also be hearing a lot more of 'shadow', and 'projection'. The 'shadow' is like a blanket covering the anima or animus. It is a blanket made up of all the input into the psyche which was rejected by the persona. To achieve wholeness one must fight through the shadow.

'Projection' is the process by which the shadow is neutralized. Perhaps a person projects their anima/us onto a religious object like the Virgin Mary, or upon a love object, or in the case of the cross-dresser, upon feminine persona.

II PRIMARY TERMS

TRANSVESTITE (CROSSDRESSING) - TRANS-SEXUAL (TV/TS) COMMUNITY:

I use 'TV/TS Community' to mean an identifiable group of people for whom crossdressing or transsexualism is an issue. It can also include anyone who wishes to identify with that Community. The act of 'cross-dressing' and 'gender identity' are the primary unifying factors, and services and affiliations are the secondary unifying factors. It does not exclude people on the basis of sex, sexual preference, personal identity, or extent of cross-dressing activity.

TRANSVESTITE (TV):

'Transvestite' (coined by Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld in 1910) is used to describe a person who wears clothing usually considered appropriate for the other sex.

Unfortunately the word takes on a clinical guise, implying compulsive or sexual behavior, as though it were a disease or perversion. (it is neither a disease nor a perversion.) To make matters worse, most dictionaries still define transvestism as a manifestation of homosexuality. (That's wrong!!! In fact, the ratio of heterosexuality is higher among people who cross-dress than it is among the population in general.)

'Trans-vest' means nothing more than 'cross-dress'. Transvestism is in itself an innocent term, but it is very easy to understand why so many people who cross-dress do not want to be identified with that word.

The initials 'TV' for some reason do not carry the same negative connotations the word 'transvestite' does. Many people who absolutely abhor the word 'transvestite', have no qualms whatever with being called a 'TV', or being identified with the 'TV/TS Community'. Also, the initials 'TV' are convenient to use, and readily identifiable.

EONISM:

Chevalier Charles D'Eon was a celebrated 18th century French transvestite. He was a spy for King Louis XV, and was hired as a 'lady in waiting' in the court of Czarina Elizabeth of Russia. He then served with distinction in the French army and was an accomplished swordsman. In 1762 he was sent on a spy mission to London where his penchant for women's clothing convinced people that he was in fact a woman. In 1777 he was legally declared a woman, and given orders by King Louis to dress only as a woman. Only after his death in 1810 did they discover that he was really a man.

Until Dr. Hirschfeld coined the term 'transvestite', 'eonism' was used to describe men who wore women's clothing. Eonism is still a popular term, and the Chevalier D'Eon still remains a remarkable historical character.

CROSS-DRESSER (CD):

'Cross-dresser' is used to describe a person who wears clothing usually considered appropriate for the opposite sex. The only difference between 'cross-dresser' and 'transvestite' is that 'transvestite' implies a psychological condition (compulsion), while 'cross-dresser' implies voluntary behavior. Most people who cross-dress would rather be identified with the word 'cross-dresser' than 'transvestite'.

"Are you a transvestite?"

"ABSOLUTELY NOT!!! I just enjoy crossdressing."

Besides being an easy term with which to be identified, it also has the advantage of being vague.

Since 'cross-dressing' is an activity, it includes everybody who cross-dresses for whatever reasons, and says nothing whatever about anybody. It's so vague and so meaningless it's perfectly useful. One can bandy the term about with absolute impunity, without hurting anyone's feelings or endangering anyone's identity.

DRAG / DRAG QUEEN / STREET QUEEN / SHE-MALE / SPIT DRAG / FEMALE IMPERSONATOR-IMPRESSIONIST:

Rumor has it that the term 'drag' was coined by Shakespeare. In Shakespeare's day the female roles in a play were performed by men, and 'drag' was an acronym meaning DRessed AS a Girl. The term was a theatrical term then, and is predominantly a theatrical term now, and implies a theatrical, showy, camp, exotic, or high glamour image.

Being 'in drag' is like being 'in costume'. It implies nothing about a person's sexual preference or inclination towards cross-dressing. (That is an important safety valve for those people who take their cross-dressing seriously, but don't want anyone to know they take their cross-dressing seriously.)

'Drag': Cross-dressing in glamorous, or campy, or exotic, or erotic attire ('high drag'), or conservatively ('low drag'). Usually drag is identified with 'high drag'.

'Drag queen' (DQ): Usually a cross-dresser that prefers the drag image. Also, the term 'drag queen' is usually identified with the Gay Community.

'Street queen': Usually a drag queen that also hustles — a prostitute.

'She-male': Usually a gay male who lives full time as a woman; a gay transgenderist.

'Spit-drag': Usually cross-dressing as a joke, quite often a male in high drag sporting a moustache or beard.

'Female impersonator/impressionist' (FI): Usually a professional entertainer that performs 'in drag'. FIs are frequently identified by other people as 'drag queens', so many entertainers prefer the term 'impressionist' in an attempt to disassociate themselves from the 'drag queen' image, and to add some dignity to their profession.

There was a time when 'drag' and 'cross-dressing' meant virtually the same thing. However, since most cross-dressers do not consider themselves to be in costume, are not gay, are not professional entertainers, and certainly not hookers

TRANSGENDER (TG):

In the not-too-distant past, the most popular use of the term 'transgenderist' was to describe a person who could express him or herself comfortably in both masculine and feminine terms without the sexual or compulsive overtones of the word 'transvestite'. It was easier for a cross-dresser to identify with the word 'transgenderist' than 'transvestite', and was far more specific than 'cross-dresser'.

Recently, however, the term 'transgenderist' has come more and more to mean a person of one sex living entirely in the gender role generally considered appropriate for the opposite sex (cross-living). Most people who consider themselves to be transgenderists do not want or need sexual re-assignment surgery, and do not identify with 'transvestite'.

Most people who once identified with 'transgenderist', but do not cross-live, now opt to identify themselves as 'cross-dressers', or 'femmiphiles', or 'andro-gynes'.

FEMMIPHILE (FP):

'Femmophile' was a term coined by Virginia Prince (founder of Chevalier Publications, and the Foundation for Personality Expression [FPE] - now the Society for the Second Self [Tri-Ess]). FPE was an organization for avowed 'heterosexual' males who enjoyed 'cross-dressing'. The intention was to provide a term that fit their special category. Fem-, meaning female or feminine, was combined with -phile, meaning lover. 'Femmophile' consequently meant 'lover of the feminine'.

Unfortunately '-phile' is a suffix used mostly in professional circles, and carries psychotic overtones. For that reason most people shied away from identifying with the term. However, the term was created for the heterosexual cross-dresser, and because of the sexual or (God forbid) with the 'homosexual' implications of 'transvestite', and the unacceptable simplicity of 'cross-dresser', and with the change in the meaning of 'transgender', and the confusion of 'androgyne', the word 'femmophile' has made a comeback.

(Needless to say though, the intellectual free spirits of the cross-dressing world are trying to come up with a better word.)

TRANSSEXUAL (TS) / NEW MAN / NEW WOMAN:

The term 'transsexual' is sometimes used to describe a person in transition - working towards sexual reassignment surgery (SRS). (Rather than 'reassignment surgery' a growing number of people prefer the term 'corrective surgery'.) 'Transsexual' is sometimes used to describe a person who has completed their surgery (although many post-operative TS's

prefer 'new man' or 'new woman', or even 'man' or 'woman').

The most practical use of the term 'transsexual' is to describe someone whose 'gender' identity (their identity of themselves as a person) is fundamentally and irrevocably incompatible with their 'sex', (biological make-up) regardless of whether or not they have taken any steps towards reassignment ('reconstructive') surgery.

The basic difference between a transvestite and a transsexual is that a TV is mostly interested in gender expression, and a TS is mostly interested in gender identity. For most TVs, the clothes themselves are very important. For most TS's, clothes are a way to reinforce their identity. That is a fundamental difference.

ANDROGYNE (AN):

'Androgyne' is a current 'in' word. The term is very difficult to understand, mostly because it is not a definition. It does not define a phenomenon. Rather, it is a state of mind, and a way to 'be' in the universe.

'Androgyne' was derived from 'andro-', meaning male, or man, and 'gyno-' meaning female, or woman. Philosophically, 'androgyne' found its roots in 'androgyny'. Modern androgyne is based on the ancient Far Eastern concept of the duality of the universe (Yin, Yang), with modern variations by psychologist C.G. Jung. Jung introduced the terms 'anima', which is the hidden feminine principle in men, and 'animus', which is the hidden masculine principle in women.

In the cross-dressing world 'androgyne' has come to mean using cross-dressing as a tool with which a man can express his femininity and a woman can express her masculinity. However, 'Androgyne' means a great deal more than using cross-dressing as a tool. It means harmony, rather, the sense of harmony, the harmonious balance between one's masculinity and femininity.

Yin and Yang (whose symbol is the well-known interlocking teardrops, seen on every Korean flag) is an ancient Chinese religious concept. 'Yin' is negative, dark, and feminine. 'Yang' is positive, bright, and masculine. (Personally, I think they had that backwards.) The Yin and Yang are inherent in, and influence the destinies of all things. The embodiment of the Yin and Yang was considered an ideal. With it went a sense of oneness, a sense of harmonious oneness with the universe.

Now let's see if I can say all this in plain old english. For the cross-dresser the idea is to bring his or her 'feminine' qualities and desires into a harmonious balance with his or her 'masculine' qualities. The result is a sense of wholeness, of oneness, of being one

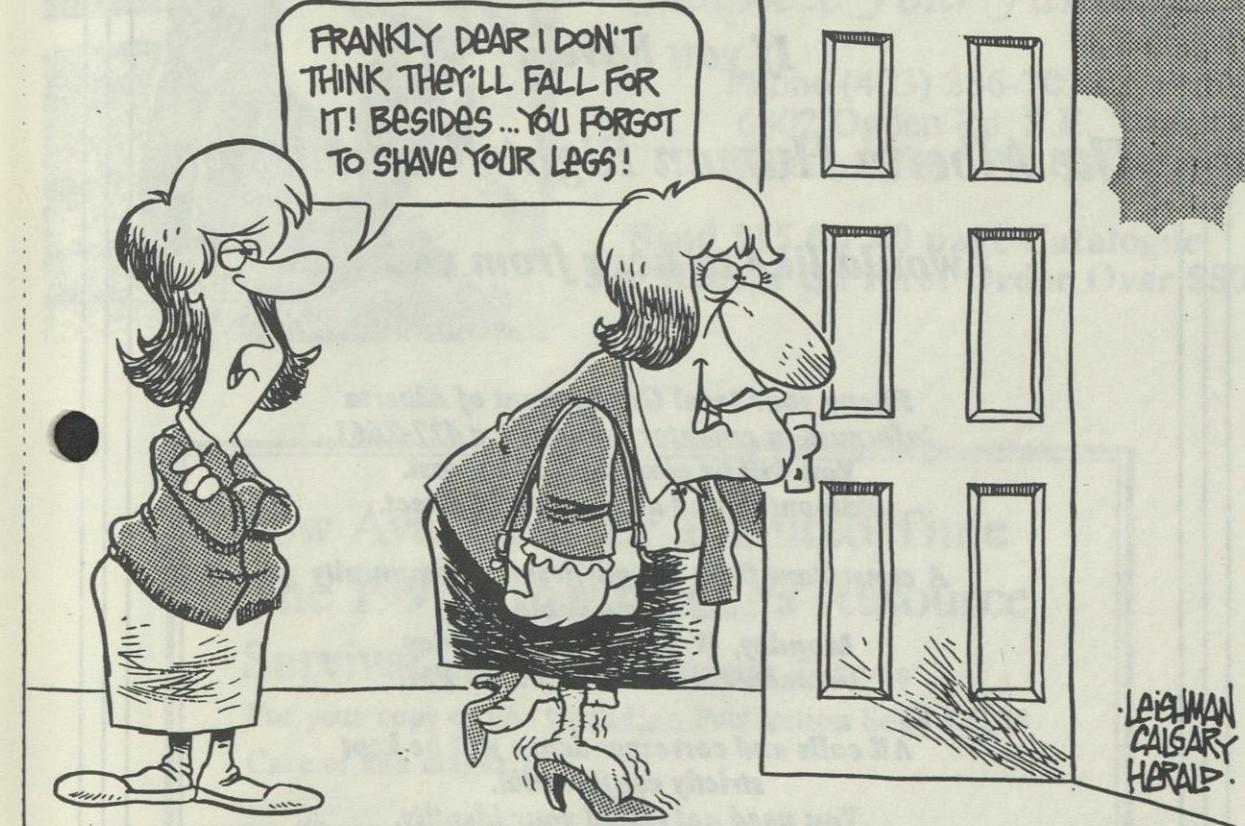
person, of being both a man and a woman - not two separate identities, but a single identity, a single, complete, person.

That to me is a beautiful concept, and a beautiful objective. It is an ideal, but it is an ideal that everyone can achieve. Think of it - peace of mind for all cross-dressers - no searching for an elusive identity, no being lost in a categorical limbo - just being a person, being a man AND a woman in harmony with him AND herself. Beautiful!

(Footnote: The Outreach Institute's logo is the Yin and Yang, the interlocking teardrops. I.F.G.E.'s logo is a masculine hand interlocked with a feminine hand holding a rose, with the caption, "Of being masculine, of being feminine, of being one with yourself and Nature". The concept of androgyny is everywhere.)

- END -

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Profile on Member #201

Name Marsha

Height 6' 2"

Weight 185 Lbs.

Specs 46C- 30- 42

Favorite likes "Leather"-----Dislikes "Narrow minds"

Well like so many I can say I started dressing young. I started going out of the closet two and a half years ago. I got the idea that I could get out after meeting Dixie of Crossland Shoes. She sold me my first descent pair of pumps (which I still wear to this day). She came to my house to check out the fit of my shoes.. After seeing her and learning about the Sears Catalogue. OHH well If you want to blame anyone blame Dixie!!! Because of her I was unleashed In Edmonton..Well I am out and not going back..

I am the Executive of Edmonton. and Editor of this magazine. I joined Illusions about two years ago and got my first outfit from Barble..I am a member of The court of Edmonton, ISCWR, and Northern Chaps. I also host at the local Center for alternate lifestyles. I am a regular at the bars in Edmonton and Calgary, and because of the apparel that I usually wear got the name "The Big Blonde Bitch In Black" mostly because I Intimidated others and never backed down. Because of my attitude and being out of the closet completely (Work and all my friends and neighbours know because of a newspaper article on me) I'll dress and go anywhere. Ohh well that's all I have to say other than How about some of you other members writing up a profile this one was done 15 min. before press time!!!

Love ya all

Marsha

Marsha

Classified Section

These are all services recommended by our members and are considered to be safe and discreet towards orientation and are placed free of charge. If any other services are known, please submit information including a business card if available for publication.

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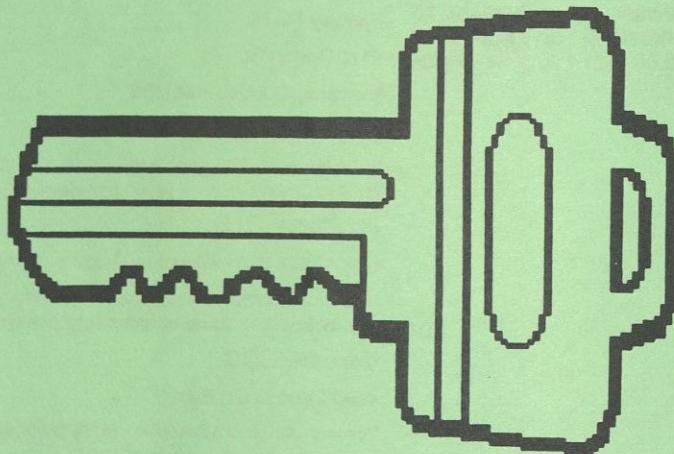
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